AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Previously presented) A packet communication system performing packet communication in which incoming and outgoing calls are controlled at call control means, comprising:

a user data processing means for encapsulating and decapsulating user data; and

resource management means for managing resources of the user data processing means, the resource management means being provided in the user data processing means.

2. (Previously presented) The packet communication system according to claim 1, wherein the resource management means manages at least an available resource ratio indicating a ratio of remaining bands and a number of remaining sessions relative to band resources and to the-number-of-sessions resources respectively of the user data processing means.

3. (Original) The packet communication system according to claim 2, wherein the call control means comprises storage means for storing the available resource ratio of the user data processing means that is notified from the resource management means.

4. (Original) The packet communication system according to claim 2, wherein the user data processing means attaches the available resource ratio to a response signal for the call control means and then sends the resulting response signal to the call control means.

5. (Original) The packet communication system according to claim 4, wherein the user data processing means attaches the available resource ratio to a response message for a call setup request sent from the call control means in order to establish a session, and then sends the resulting response message to the call control means.

6. (Original) The packet communication system according to claim 4, wherein the user data processing means attaches the available resource ratio to a response message for a call

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release request sent from the call control means in order to release the session, and then sends the resulting response message to the call control means.

7. (Original) The packet communication system according to claim 4, wherein the user data processing means attaches the available resource ratio to a response message for a health check signal sent from the call control means in order to check a condition of the user data processing means, and then sends the resulting response message to the call control means.

8. (Original) The packet communication system according to claim 2, wherein the call control means selects the user data processing means having remaining resources in accordance with the available resource ratio, and sends the call setup request for establishment of the session to the selected user data processing means.

9. (Previously presented) A network device performing packet communication by controlling incoming and outgoing calls at call control means, comprising:

a user data processing means for encapsulating and decapsulating user data; and

resource management means for managing resources of the user data processing means, the resource management means being provided in the user data processing means.

10. (Previously presented) The network device according to claim 9, wherein the resource management means manages at least an available resource ratio indicating a ratio of remaining bands and number of remaining sessions relative to band resources and to number-of-sessions resources respectively of the user data processing means.

11. (Original) The network device according to claim 9, wherein the call control means comprises storage means for storing the available resource ratio of the user data processing means that is notified from the resource management means.

12. (Original) The network device according to claim 10, wherein the user data processing means attaches the available resource ratio to a response signal for the call control means and then sends the resulting response signal to the call control means.

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13. (Original) The network device according to claim 12, wherein the user data processing means attaches the available resource ratio to a response message for a call setup request sent from the call control means in order to establish a session, and then sends the resulting response message to the call control means.

14. (Original) The network device according to claim 12, wherein the user data processing means attaches the available resource ratio to a response message for a call release request sent from the call control means in order to release the session, and then sends the resulting response message to the call control means.

15. (Original) The network device according to claim 12, wherein the user data processing means attaches the available resource ratio to a response message for a health check signal sent from the call control means in order to check a condition of the user data processing means, and then sends the resulting response message to the call control means.

16. (Original) The network device according to claim 10, wherein the call control means selects the user data processing means having remaining resources in accordance with the available resource ratio, and transmits the call setup request for establishment of the session to the selected user data processing means.

17. (Currently Amended) A method of managing resources for a network device performing packet communication by controlling incoming and outgoing calls at call control means ~~and by encapsulating and decapsulating user data at user data processing means~~, the method comprising:

the user data processing means <u>encapsulating and decapsulating user data and</u> managing resources of the user data processing means.

18. (Previously presented) The method of managing resources according to claim 17, wherein the step of managing resources includes managing at least an available resource ratio indicating a ratio of remaining bands and number of remaining sessions relative to band resources and to number-of-sessions resources respectively of the user data processing means.

19. (Original) The method of managing resources according to claim 18, wherein the call control means executes a step of storing in storage means thereof the available resource ratio of the user data processing means that is notified by the step of managing resources.

20. (Original) The method of managing resources according to claim 18, wherein the user data processing means attaches the available resource ratio to a response signal for the call control means and then sends the resulting response signal to the call control means.

21. (Original) The method of managing resources according to claim 20, wherein the user data processing means attaches the available resource ratio to a response message for a call setup request sent from the call control means in order to establish a session, and then sends the resulting response message to the call control means.

22. (Original) The method of managing resources according to claim 20, wherein the user data processing means attaches the available resource ratio to a response message for a call release request sent from the call control means in order to release the session, and then sends the resulting response message to the call control means.

23. (Original) The method of managing resources according to claim 20, wherein the user data processing means attaches the available resource ratio to a response message for a health check signal sent from the call control means in order to check a condition of the user data processing means, and then sends the resulting response message to the call control means.

24. (Original) The method of managing resources according to claim 18, wherein the call control means selects the user data processing means having remaining resources in accordance with the available resource ratio, and transmits the call setup request for establishment of the session to the selected user data processing means.